



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294
(323) 881-2401

DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

May 01, 2012

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE PURCHASE ORDERS THAT EXCEED THE
\$100,000 PURCHASE LIMIT TO MULTIPLE MOBILE DATA SYSTEM INSTALLATION VENDORS
THROUGH THE REQUEST FOR BID PROCESS
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County (District) is requesting approval to authorize the purchasing agent to bid and award contracts exceeding the \$100,000 Sundry Services threshold for the installation of mobile data computers in 900 District fire apparatus as part of the District's Mobile Data Systems (MDS) Project.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:**

Authorize the County Purchasing Agent to award purchase orders not to exceed \$600,000 (combined) to multiple installation vendors for the District's Mobile Data Systems Project. Each vendor's individual purchase order will exceed the Purchasing authority of \$100,000 for services.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of this recommended action is to enable the District to obtain installation services from multiple vendors for the purpose of installing mobile data computers (MDCs) in 900 emergency response vehicles/apparatus. The installation of MDCs is part of the mission-critical MDS Project. The scope and the timing of the installation will require more than one vendor to complete the services. The multiple vendors will be determined through the Request for Bid (RFB) process.

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

47 May 1, 2012

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The County Purchasing Agent, who administers the purchase order process, has specific statutory limitations pertaining to service contracting, and the authority to contract for services beyond a specific dollar threshold rests with your Honorable Board. The identified MDS Project installation services exceed the established ceiling amount authorized by statute and require Board approval.

An informal canvassing of the industry that provides this type of service indicates the cost per vendor will exceed the County Purchasing Agent statutory limitations for Sundry Services. The total cost for the installation services will not exceed \$600,000.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) narrow banding mandate which goes into effect on January 1, 2013 is the catalyst for the MDS Project, which includes the installation of the 900 mobile data computers. The mobile data computers will replace the existing mobile data terminals which are not compliant with the FCC narrow banding mandate. First responders rely on radio communications when providing emergency services to the public. Installation of mobile data computers to replace the mobile data terminals is essential for effective radio communication. If the District does not replace the existing mobile data terminals with newer technology mobile data computers then the emergency services provided to the public will be adversely and severely impacted.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the recommended action is consistent with the County's Strategic Goal #1, Operational Effectiveness, and Goal #5, Public Safety, by increasing the safety and security of all residents in Los Angeles County through the comprehensive integration of public safety information systems in a cost-effective manner.

The MDS Project is part of the District's Public Safety Radio Interoperability initiative and is included in the District's Business Automation Plan for FY 11-12 and FY 12-13.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

On May 9, 2006, your Board approved the transfer of \$26 million from the District's Designation for Budgetary Uncertainties to the District's Designation for Infrastructure Growth to replace the District's voice and data emergency communications systems. This action secured a funding source for the District to replace and upgrade portable and mobile radios, system infrastructure maintenance, radio coverage improvements, equipment installation and training, mobile data system improvements, and cost over-run contingency funding.

On January 18, 2011, your Board approved the Appropriation Adjustment of \$10 million from the District's Designation for Infrastructure Growth to the District's Special Services budget unit to fund upgrading essential communication systems infrastructure for the MDS Project. The purchase of the MDS equipment is underway and as the computers are acquired they will be ready for installation.

The funding for the MDS Project is available in the District's Fiscal Year 2011-2012, Special Services Budget Unit.

There is no impact on net County cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The County Purchasing Agent has a statutory limitation of \$100,000 for Sundry Service. The scope of the MDS Project and the timing requires more than one vendor to complete the installation services. Therefore, your Board's approval is necessary to obtain the professional installation services that exceed the \$100,000 threshold to accomplish this project.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The purchase of these services will be requisitioned through, and accomplished by the Purchasing Agent in accordance with the County's purchasing and contracting policies and procedures. The District anticipates the installations to be completed by December 2012.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

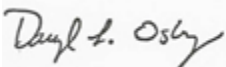
Approval of the recommended action will expand the District's interoperability and provide the first responders with a safe and effective emergency communication system which will contribute to the quality of public safety service provided to the residents of Los Angeles County.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval by the Board of Supervisors, please return a copy of the adopted letter to the following office:

Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County
Executive Office – Business Operations
1320 North Eastern Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90063
Attention: Acting Chief Deputy Ronald D. Watson
RWatson@fire.lacounty.gov

Respectfully submitted,



DARYL L. OSBY
FIRE CHIEF, FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

DLO:pa

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Internal Services Department